

public funds more readily. They want to carry on works of great Internal Improvement—they wish to spend the public funds with prodigality. I would ask, sir, if this be a fact? It has been said that “history is philosophy teaching by example;” and what does history say, in relation to this matter? Does it accord with what the gentleman has stated? Or does it not rather repudiate the charge, as being base and unfounded, when preferred against gentlemen in the West. Where have the funds of the State been squandered? In levelling the mountains of the West, or deepening the channels of the East? Let history decide this question.

Again, Mr. Chairman, it has been said, that this is a mere “scramble” for power. If, sir, power means *right*, then indeed are we striving for it,—then is there a general scuffle for right; and he is a traitor to himself, who does not unite in the general struggle for right, that now agitates the world. Is there any thing inglorious in a man’s contending for his rights? It is only when a man contends for that to which he is not entitled, that his conduct is rendered odious. Are we not entitled to what we claim? Why, it is said the East have wealth and population equal to the ratio of their representation. All we want is that to which we are reasonably entitled. If the land is in the East, and if the taxes are paid in the East, as has been intimated, then the East cannot lose by it. What we want, is a fair and honorable adjustment of this matter, according to principles which ought to govern in all civil institutions of this kind. And Mr. Chairman, wherever we show an unwillingness to be governed by the great and fundamental principles of republicanism, then, sir, hold us up to the execration of an impartial world, and the common censure of mankind. But let those who oppose this struggle for a fair and honorable adjustment of our difficulties, know that their conduct, too, will be judged of by mankind; and that they likewise will be rewarded by posterity, according to their doings.

We do not want more than equal rights and privileges with our Eastern friends; and we believe it is all important for this matter to be amicably settled. At present, the State is laboring under strong party excitement, and sectional jealousies. The situation of North-Carolina, at this time, is truly a deplorable one, to every true and generous patriot. Her interests disjointed and shattered; and her legislative halls present little more than one continued scene of intemperate party rage, and factional strife! Disgusted with such a state of things, your noble, generous and enterprising youth, have been for years flying from your country, and are now adorning the bar, the bench, and the legislative halls of nearly half the States in the Union. How long, I would ask, shall this state of things continue? Let gentlemen pause, and ponder well this matter.